



Willard T. Johns Memorial Scholarship Application

The Pennsylvania Outdoor Writers Association – Willard T. Johns Memorial Scholarship honors the memory of Willard T. Johns and recognizes outstanding students who are planning communications careers to relate the principles of conservation and the attractions of the out-of-doors.

Preference for this scholarship shall be given to all full-time junior and senior students enrolled in a college or university, physically located within the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, who are pursuing a Bachelor's Degree in a communications-related major, a biological, environmental, natural science, or related major, or outdoor recreation-related major. Students in other majors, who have actively participated in outdoor communications (print, broadcast, digital, or public speaking) already, are also eligible to apply.

All scholarship applicants are encouraged to apply for Student Membership in the Pennsylvania Outdoor Writers Association to hone their skills as professional outdoor communicators and develop contacts within the field.

Recipients should show strong evidence of academic achievement. It is the expectation that four scholarships in the amount of \$1,000 each shall be awarded annually. Each scholarship shall be awarded for one year but may be renewed for an additional year if a recipient continues to meet the conditions of eligibility. Renewal of a Scholarship will require a new application and standard screening review.

Members of POWA, including all classes of membership, and their families are not eligible.

Instructions for applicants:

1. Complete and sign the application
2. Additional attachments required:
 - a. A one-page statement detailing your communication career goals and comments describing your philosophy on the outdoors
 - b. A brief letter of recommendation from a faculty member of your university with the return of your application. LOR can be emailed by faculty directly to info@paoutdoorwriters.com, if preferred
 - c. A current transcript of your grades

Name:

Address:

Phone:

Email:

University & Major:

For 2026-27 academic year: Junior Senior Other:

Anticipated Graduation (Month/Year):

Please answer the following questions in the space provided or attach a separate sheet if needed.

1. List outdoor activities in which you engage and explain your involvement.

2. List experience in outdoor communications and provide samples.

3. Outline your goals and plans for your career in communications that focuses on the wise use and management of natural resources and/or outdoor recreation.

4. References (names, occupations, addresses) **or** include non-faculty letters of recommendation

Name	Occupation	Address	Email and/or Phone

The undersigned applicant gives permission to POWA:

- To confirm my GPA with the University, for scholarship purposes only: (Yes ___ No ___)
- To use my grade point average in their publicity if I am a winner of the annual POWA - Willard T. Johns Memorial Scholarship: (Yes ___ No ___)

Signature of Applicant: _____

Deadline for application is **April 30, 2026**

Mail application & attachments to:

POWA, PO Box 91, Westfield, PA 16950

Or Email to info@paoutdoorwriters.com